3'; 5' AACACT 3'; 5' ACACTG 3'; 5' CACTGA 3'; 5' ATTAAG 3'; 5' TTAAGA 3'; 5' TAAGAC 3'; 5' AAGACT 3'; 5' AGACTG 3'; and 5' GACTGA 3'.

5. **(Amended)** A method of claim 1, wherein the IL-1B allele (+6912) is detected by contacting the sample DNA with a *Hinf*I restriction enzyme and analyzing the restriction fragments, wherein a band pattern of 89, 76 and 61 base pair fragments identifies the IL-1B allele 2 and 76, 61, 54 and 35 base pair bands identify the IL-1B allele 1.

6. A kit for determining a subject's susceptibility to developing a disease or condition, which is caused by or contributed to by an inappropriately high level of IL-1β, said kit comprising a first primer oligonucleotide that hybridizes 5' or 3' to an IL-1B +6912 allele or a marker that is in linkage disequilibrium with an IL-1B +6912 allele.

7. A kit of claim 6, which additionally comprises a second primer oligonucleotide that hybridizes 3' to an IL-1B +6912 marker when the first primer hybridizes 5' and hybridizes 5' to an IL-1B +6912 marker when the first primer hybridizes 3'.

8. A kit of claim 6, wherein said first primer and said second primer hybridize to a region of an IL-1B gene that includes position +6912, wherein said region is in the range of between about 50 and 1000 base pairs.

9. **(Amended)** A kit of claim 6 or 7, wherein said primers are selected from the group consisting of:

a) 5'GCTCCCACATTCTGATGAGCAAC3' (SEQ. ID. NO. [2] 3);
b) 5'TGCAGCACTCAGCAATGAGGAG3' (SEQ. ID. NO. [3] 4);
c) 5'CCCATTTAAATCTGAGCTTATATATTTTGAGT3' (SEQ. ID. NO. [4] 5);
d) 5'TCAATTTGGACTGGTGTGCTC3' (SEQ. ID. NO. [5] 6); and
e) 5'TCAGAACCATTGAACAGTATGATATTTG3' (SEQ. ID. NO. [6] 7)

10. **(Amended)** A kit of claim 9, further comprising a detection means, wherein said detection means is an appropriate amount of *Hinf*I restriction enzyme to digest the sample and a means to analyse the digested sample, wherein a band pattern of 89, 76 and 61 base pairs identifies the IL-1B allele 2 and a band pattern of 76, 61, 54 and 35 base pairs identifies [identify] the IL-1B allele 1.

11. A kit of claim 9, further comprising a detection means, wherein said detection means is a detection oligonucleotide that contains 6 consecutive nucleotides selected from the group consisting of: 5' ATTAAC 3'; 5' TTAACA 3'; 5' TAACAC 3'; 5' AACACT 3'; 5' ACACTG 3'; 5'

CACTGA 3'; 5' ATTAAG 3'; 5' TTAAGA 3'; 5' TAAGAC 3'; 5' AAGACT 3'; 5' AGACTG 3'; and 5' GACTGA 3'.

12. A kit of claim 9, further comprising a DNA sampling means and a DNA sampling reagent.

13. A kit of claim 6, which further comprises a control.

14. A kit of claim 11, wherein said detection oligonucleotide includes a label.

~~34.~~ (**Amended**) An isolated nucleic acid comprising ~~the nucleotide sequence~~ as shown in SEQ ID. No. 2.

35. (**Amended**) An isolated nucleic acid [of claim 34,] which is comprised of ~~between~~ about 100 and about 7000 nucleotides of a sequence ~~represented~~ in SEQ ID. No.2 and contains a [guanine] cytosine at a position equivalent, relative to the surrounding sequence, to position ~~69~~12.

~~36.~~ (**Amended**) An isolated nucleic acid ~~of claim [34] 35~~, ~~which is comprised of~~ between about ~~5000 and~~ about 7000 nucleotides.

37. A transgenic non-human animal which contains and expresses an isolated nucleic acid of claim 34 in at least some of its cells.

38. A transgenic non-human animal of claim 37, which is heterozygous for the isolated nucleic acid of claim 34.

39. A transgenic non-human animal of claim 37, which is homozygous for the isolated nucleic acid of claim 34.

40. **(Canceled)**

41. **(Canceled)**

42. A method for identifying an agent as being an IL-1β antagonist, comprising administering the agent to a transgenic non-human animal of claim 37 and observing the effect on the animal's phenotype, wherein an amelioration of a phenotype characteristic of an inflammatory disorder indicates that the agent is an IL-1β antagonist.